

REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 1-12 are pending. No claims are amended.

Amendments to the Specification

The specification has been amended merely to correct a typographical error. No new matter has been entered.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5 and 7-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,414,933 to **Anada** et al. (hereinafter **Anada**).

Regarding claims 1 and 7, the Examiner asserts that **Anada** discloses, *inter alia*: "a slider 5c having a first protrusion L1 and a second protrusion L2...". In that regard, **Anada** actually discloses at column 3, lines 23-40, and illustrates in Figures 2, 3A, and 3B, two identical protrusions/threads 5C1, each having a thickness L1 at their central portions and thinner thicknesses L2 and L3 at each of their end portions. On the other hand, the present application discloses a first protrusion 172a having a thickness greater than the thickness of a separate second protrusion 173a, *such that the second protrusion remains in the groove of the lead screw even if the first protrusion is moved out of the first screw* as discussed in paragraphs 39-41 and illustrated in Figures 8A and 8B of the present application. The Examiner asserts, without further explanation, that the above discussed relationship between the protrusions is disclosed or inherent in the **Anada** device. However, Applicant can find no support for this assertion anywhere in the **Anada** reference. For at least these reasons, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 7 (and claims 2-5 and 8-11 which depend therefrom) as being anticipated by **Anada** is respectfully requested.

Additionally, claims 4, 5, 10, and 11 are allowable over the art of record for independent reasons as follows. Regarding claims 4 and 10, the Examiner asserts that the slider of **Anada** comprises first and second extensions on which the first and second protrusions are formed, and that this feature is illustrated in Figure 2.

However, the protrusions are clearly illustrated as formed within a concavity and not on first and second extensions. On the other hand, the protrusions are disclosed in the present application as being on first and second extensions 172 and 173. For at least these reasons, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 4 and 10 (and claims 5 and 11 which depend therefrom) as being anticipated by **Anada** is respectfully requested.

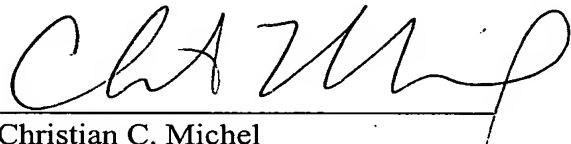
Conclusion

In view of the above, it is believed that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments which may be incurred in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 18-2220.

Respectfully submitted,

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